

U.S. Officials Only
CONFIDENTIALCENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT Background of Beria's Trial

PLACE ACQUIRED
(BY SOURCE)DATE ACQUIRED
(BY SOURCE)

DATE (OF INFO.)

25X1A

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES, WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE 18, SECTIONS 793 AND 794, OF THE U.S. CODE, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS REPORT IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

REPORT NO.

25X1A

RESPONSIVE TO	
1	2

DATE DISTR 23 Feb 1954

NO. OF PAGES 1

NO. OF ENCLS.

SUPP. TO
REPORT NO.

25X1X

1. Many more government and party officials are involved in the Beria trial than are mentioned in the communiqué.
2. Those mentioned in the indictment may be divided into two groups:
 - a. V. N. Merkulov, V. Z. Kobulov and A. N. Vlodzimirsky. The last used to cooperate with Beria in collecting evidence (on Stalin's orders) on all leading government and Party officials. This compromising material was found, after Stalin's death, in the files of Stalin's confidential secretary, Poskrebyshv, who disappeared after his master's death. The perusal of these documents took some time; that is why Merkulov and Vlodzimirsky were arrested about three months after Beria's ouster.
 - b. V. G. Dekanosov, S. A. Goglidze (both from Georgia), Pavel Meshnik from the Ukraine, as well as many others who are not named, are involved within the "bourgeois nationalist plot", or in a "conspiracy to enable Beria and his friends to hide and then to escape abroad." The recent purge in Armenia (reported in the "New York Times" without explaining its causes) is connected with the second group.
3. From the beginning, Beria did his utmost to flatter Malenkov, and to draw him into a partnership to gather the whole power of state into their hands. The material collected in Stalin's private secretariat was to be used for this purpose. Malenkov, aided by the army, decided that he would not go along, and the whole affair turned against Beria.
4. A similar situation arose under Yezhov, when it was discovered that he had collected incriminating material against Voroshilov, Molotov and other top Soviet leaders.

- end **LIBRARY SUBJECT & AREA CODES**U.S. Officials Only
CONFIDENTIAL

135.5 N

DISTRIBUTION	STATE	OUT	EV	ARMY	NAVY	AIR	FBI				
--------------	-------	-----	----	------	------	-----	-----	--	--	--	--

This report is for the use within the USA of the Intelligence components of the Departments or Agencies indicated above. It is not to be transmitted overseas without the concurrence of the originating office through the Assistant Secretary of the Office of the Secretary of Defense.